



# Providing the Australian Curriculum in Prep to Year 10 in Queensland state schools from 2017

## Implementing the Australian Curriculum

Schools are required to implement all eight learning areas of the [Australian Curriculum](#), Version 8, by the end of 2020. Schools:

- determine an implementation schedule, in consultation with the school community and with reference to government priorities<sup>1</sup>.
- should be mindful of school capacity, teacher workload, time necessary for teachers to become familiar with the curriculum and to plan for curriculum delivery.

## A flexible approach to implementing the Australian Curriculum

From 2017, schools have greater flexibility in how they implement the Australian Curriculum. This flexibility supports schools to deliver the curriculum, reduce the number of learning areas reported on in each semester and allows more time for students to develop their learning<sup>2</sup>.

Version 8 of the Australian Curriculum provides in-built flexibility. Schools can use one of the approaches below, or a combination of both to implement the curriculum:

- **a learning area approach** (recommended for primary schools), for example:
  - Humanities and Social Sciences (instead of History, Geography, Economics and Business, and Civics and Citizenship)
  - The Arts (instead of Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, and Visual Arts)
  - Technologies (instead of Digital Technologies and Design and Technologies).
- **a subject specific approach** (recommended for secondary schools), for example, Digital Technologies and Design and Technologies (instead of Technologies in Years 7 and 8).

Determining an **implementation approach** relies on a deep understanding of the structure of the Australian Curriculum and whether it provides a learning area achievement standard and/or subject specific achievement standard.

In delivering the curriculum, **all aspects** of the relevant achievement standard for each learning area and/or subject provided in each year and/or band are to be covered. The content descriptions guide teaching and learning sequences and assist with developing an understanding of the achievement standards.

Schools determine an implementation approach to provide:

- in Prep to Year 6, the Australian Curriculum learning areas in each year and/or band (refer to table 1)
- in Years 7 to 8, the Australian Curriculum learning areas and/or subjects in each year and/or band (refer to table 2)
- in Years 9 and 10, the Australian Curriculum subjects as electives (refer to table 2).

Some learning areas and/or subjects<sup>3</sup> can be implemented over time across a band of years; or compressed and implemented in a particular year within a band; or in a single semester.

Schools use OneSchool's functionality to record school based decisions about the program of learning. This determines the learning areas and/or subjects that will be reported on each semester. These decisions are also recorded in the school's **Provision of the whole curriculum plan** as part of the three levels of planning<sup>4</sup>.

## Recommended time allocations

The recommended time allocations are a guide and have been provided to help schools plan for programs of study. Schools are encouraged to develop timetables of study that are appropriate to their individual school context.

The recommended time allocations reflect the department's commitment to [supporting student learning](#) in literacy and numeracy and curriculum initiatives, including [Schools of the future \(STEM\)](#) and [Global schools through languages](#).

They also reflect the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) indicative times for writers. These times account for not more than approximately 80% of available teaching time and enable individual schools flexibility in decision making.

## Resources

[Curriculum into the Classroom \(C2C\)](#) materials support the implementation of the Australian Curriculum.

Schools are encouraged to adapt these materials to suit their context. When adapting, ensure that the alignment to the relevant achievement standard is maintained.

The [Assessment and Moderation Hub](#) supports schools improving assessment and moderation practices and processes to ensure consistency of teacher judgments and accurate reporting against the Australian Curriculum achievement standards.

<sup>1</sup> [Advancing Education: An action plan for education in Queensland](#)

<sup>2</sup> OneSchool will support Queensland state schools' transition to full implementation of the Australian Curriculum by continuing to provide both the Queensland and Australian Curriculum learning areas and subjects for Academic Reporting and Curriculum planning.

<sup>3</sup> History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business, Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts, Digital Technologies, and Design and Technologies subjects. For

<sup>4</sup> information about the three levels of whole school curriculum, assessment and reporting planning see [Assessment and Moderation in Prep to Year 10](#).



## Recommended time allocations<sup>5</sup>

**Table 1: Recommended time allocations in Prep to Year 6**

In Prep to Year 6, schools implement<sup>6</sup> the Australian Curriculum learning areas and/or subjects in each year and/or band.

Learning areas	Hours	Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
The following learning areas have <b>achievement standards written for each year</b> . Schools teach, assess and report on <b>English, Mathematics and Science</b> in each semester every year from Prep to Year 6. Schools teach, assess and report on <b>Humanities and Social Sciences</b> in at least one semester each year from Prep to Year 6.								
English	per year	280	280	280	280	240	240	240
	per week	7	7	7	7	6	6	6
Mathematics	per year	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
	per week	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Science	per year	40	40	40	70	70	70	70
	per week	1	1	1	1h 45m	1h 45m	1h 45m	1h 45m
Humanities and Social Sciences <sup>7</sup>	per year	40	40	40	60	60	80	80
	per week	1	1	1	1h 30m	1h 30m	2	2
Learning areas	Hours	Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
The following learning areas have <b>achievement standards written in bands of years</b> . Schools make decisions about when they will teach, assess and report on the learning areas in each band. They may be provided over time across each band of years; or compressed and provided in a particular year within each band; or in a single semester of each band. They may not all be provided in a particular semester of each band from Prep to Year 6.								
Health and Physical Education <sup>16</sup>	per band	80	160 (80 hours per year)		160 (80 hours per year)		160 (80 hours per year)	
	per week	2	2		2		2	
The Arts <sup>8</sup>	per band	120 (40 hours per year)			100 (50 hours per year)		100 (50 hours per year)	
	per week	1			1h 15m		1h 15m	
Technologies <sup>9</sup>	per band	60 (20 hours per year)			80 (40 hours per year)		120 (60 hours per year)	
	per week	30m			1		1h 30m	
Languages <sup>19</sup>	per band	120 (40 hours per year)			120 (60 hours per year)		120 (60 hours per year)	
	per week	1			1h 30m		1h 30m	

Schools are encouraged to implement Languages from Prep.

**Table 2: Recommended time allocations in Years 7 to 10**

In Years 7 to 10, schools implement<sup>6</sup> the Australian Curriculum learning areas and/or subjects in each year and/or band.

In Years 9 and 10, schools use the Australian Curriculum subjects to provide electives.

Learning areas and/or subjects	Hours	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10 <sup>10</sup>
The following learning areas have <b>achievement standards written for each year</b> . Schools teach, assess and report on <b>English, Mathematics and Science</b> in each semester every year from Year 7 to 10.					
English	per year	up to 240	140	140	130
Mathematics	per year	up to 200	140	140	130
Science	per year	100	100	120	110
Humanities and Social Sciences <sup>11</sup> OR	per year	120			
History <sup>12</sup>	per year	40	40	50	45
Geography <sup>13</sup>	per year	40	40	50	45
Economics and Business <sup>14</sup>	per year	20	20	50	45
Civics and Citizenship <sup>15</sup>	per year	20	20	20	20
Learning areas and/or subjects	Hours	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Health and Physical Education <sup>16</sup>	per band	160			150
The Arts <sup>17</sup>	Dance	per band	160	150	150
	Drama				
	Media Arts				
	Music				
	Visual Arts				
Technologies <sup>18</sup>	Digital Technologies	per band	160		150
	Design and Technologies				
Languages <sup>19</sup>	per band	160			150

Schools implement Australian Curriculum subjects as electives in Years 9 and 10.

No achievement standard or content available.

<sup>5</sup> Table 1 and 2 represent recommended time allocations suitable for the whole curriculum as reflected in the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (2012) [Curriculum Design Paper: Version 3.1](#). However, schools make decisions about allocations of time.

<sup>6</sup> To implement means schools teach, assess and report on the Australian Curriculum learning areas and/or subjects against the relevant achievement standards in each year and/or band.

<sup>7</sup> In **Prep to Year 6**, schools implement **Humanities and Social Sciences** or individual subjects (History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship (from Year 3), and Economics and Business (from Year 5)) in at least one semester each year.

<sup>8</sup> In **Prep to Year 6**, schools implement **The Arts** or individual subjects (Drama, Dance, Media Arts, Music, and Visual Arts) in at least one semester each band.

<sup>9</sup> In **Prep to Year 6**, schools implement **Technologies** or individual subjects (Digital Technologies, and Design and Technologies) in at least one semester in each band.

<sup>10</sup> Year 10 is based on 38 weeks per year rather than 40 weeks per year.

<sup>11</sup> In **Year 7**, schools implement **Humanities and Social Sciences** or individual subjects (History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics and Business) in at least one semester.

<sup>12</sup> In **Years 8 to 10**, schools implement **History** in at least one semester each year.

<sup>13</sup> In **Year 8**, schools implement **Geography** in at least one semester. In **Years 9 and 10**, schools implement **Geography** as an elective in at least one semester each year.

<sup>14</sup> In **Year 8**, schools implement **Economics and Business** in at least one semester. In **Years 9 and 10**, schools implement **Economics and Business** as an elective in at least one semester.

<sup>15</sup> In **Year 8**, schools implement **Civics and Citizenship** in at least one semester. In **Years 9 and 10**, schools implement **Civics and Citizenship** as an elective in at least one semester each year.

<sup>16</sup> In **Prep to 10**, schools implement **Health and Physical Education** in at least one semester each year.

<sup>17</sup> In **Years 7 and 8**, schools implement at least one of The Arts subjects (**Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts**) in at least one semester of the band. In **Years 9 and 10**, schools implement at least one of **The Arts subjects** as an elective in at least one semester of the band.

<sup>18</sup> In **Years 7 and 8**, schools implement **Technologies** or the individual subjects of **Digital Technologies** and **Design and Technologies** in at least one semester of the band. In **Years 9 and 10**, schools implement **Digital Technologies** and **Design and Technologies** as electives in at least one semester of the band.

<sup>19</sup> In **Years 5 to 8**, schools implement **Languages** in at least one semester of the band. Schools are encouraged to implement **Languages** from **Prep** and as an elective in **Years 9 and 10**.